U.S. Application Serial No. 09/858,365 - Filed: May 16, 2001

Amendment Dated: April 18, 2005

Reply to Office Action Dated: February 8, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action dated February 8, 2005, the Examiner has objected to the Specification and Claims 6 and 9 due to certain specified informalities. Further, the Examiner has rejected Claims 1 though 6 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nozaki et al.; rejected Claims 4 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nozaki et al.; and rejected Claims 7 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nozaki et al. in view of Hoshino et al. Claims 9 through 16 have kindly been indicated as drawn to allowable subject matter, and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

By this paper, the specification has been thoroughly reviewed and amended to correct the noted informalities and other aspects of the original disclosure. A diskette containing a clean electronic copy of the Specification, Claims, and Abstract have been enclosed. Also, Claims 1, 4, 7, 8, and 10 through 15 have been amended to more particularly point out that which the Applicants regard as the invention by including the allowable subject matter of Claims 9 and 16 (now cancelled). Claims 2, 3, 6, 9, and 16 have been cancelled without prejudice. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that amended Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, and 10 through 15, which are the claims remaining in this Application, are now allowable.

Applicants are not aware of any additional patents, publications, or other information not previously submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office which would be required under 37 C.F.R. §1.99.

This Application is now believed to be in condition for favorable reconsideration and early allowance, and such actions are respectfully requested.

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees in connection with this communication to Eastman Kodak Company, Deposit Account No. 05-0225.

A duplicate copy of this request is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment(s)

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